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**FAX TRANSMISSION****DATE:** August 16, 2006**PTO IDENTIFIER:** Application Number 10/724,201-Conf. #8748  
Patent Number**Inventor:** Chi-Wen LIU et al.**MESSAGE TO:** US Patent and Trademark Office**FAX NUMBER:** (571) 273-8300**FROM:** BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP  
Joe McKinney Muncy**PHONE:** (703) 205-8026**Attorney Dkt. #:** 0941-0872P**PAGES (Including Cover Sheet):** 9**CONTENTS:** Amendment in Response to Non-Final Office Action (6 pages)  
Amendment Transmittal (1 page)  
Fax Cover Sheet (1 page)  
Certificate of Transmission (1 page)

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Application No. (if known): 10/724,201

Attorney Docket No.: 0941-0872P

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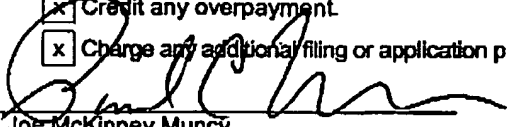
Amendment in Response to Non-Final Office Action (6 pages)

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AUG 16 2006

<b>AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER</b>			Docket No. 0941-0872P	
Application No. 10/724,201-Conf. #8748		Filing Date December 1, 2003		Examiner T. S. Pham
				Art Unit 2813
Applicant(s): Chi-Wen LIU et al.				
Invention: METHOD OF REDUCING THE PATTERN EFFECT IN THE CMP PROCESS				
<b>MS Amendment</b> <b>Commissioner for Patents</b> <b>P.O. Box 1450</b> <b>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450</b>				
Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.				
The fee has been calculated and is transmitted as shown below.				
<b>CLAIMS AS AMENDED</b>				
	Claims Remaining After Amendment	Highest Number Previously Paid	Number Extra Claims Present	Rate
Total Claims	7	- 21 =		x
Independent Claims	1	- 3 =		x
Multiple Dependent Claims (check if applicable) <input type="checkbox"/>				
Other fee (please specify):				
<b>TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE FOR THIS AMENDMENT:</b>				0.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Large Entity <span style="margin-left: 200px;"><input type="checkbox"/> Small Entity</span>				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No additional fee is required for this amendment.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Please charge Deposit Account No. _____ in the amount of \$ _____. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.				
<input type="checkbox"/> A check in the amount of \$ _____ is enclosed.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge and credit Deposit Account No. <u>02-2448</u> as described below. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.				
<input type="checkbox"/> Credit any overpayment.				
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Charge any additional filing or application processing fees required under 37 CFR 1.16 and 1.17.				
 Joe McKinney Muncy Attorney Reg. No.: 32,334			Dated: <u>August 16, 2006</u>	
BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP 8110 Gatehouse Road Suite 100 East P.O. Box 747 Falls Church, Virginia 22040-0747 (703) 205-8026				

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**AUG 16 2006**

Docket No.: 0941-0872P  
(PATENT)

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of:  
Chi-Wen LIU et al.

Application No.: 10/724,201

Confirmation No.: 8748

Filed: December 1, 2003

Art Unit: 2813

For: METHOD OF REDUCING THE PATTERN  
EFFECT IN THE CMP PROCESS

Examiner: T. S. Pham

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

MS Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In reply to the Office Action dated May 17, 2006, the following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

This reply includes:

Amendments to the Claims; and

Remarks.

Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP

KM/asc